



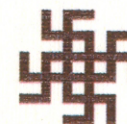
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ENLIGHTENMENT TO PERFECTION



इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र  
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

# INVITATION

*Exhibition*

on

**Fascinated by the Orient : Life and Works of Sir Aurel Stein**

Venue :

Faculty Club

University of North Bengal

Raja Rammohunpur, Darjeeling





### About the Exhibition

2nd March to 15th March, 2016

This Exhibition aims to focus on the life and legacy of Aurel Stein who like, Xuanzang travelled through the inhospitable Silk Route, encircling the Taklamakan Desert, and unearthed a great civilization which remained hidden in the sand dunes for centuries. Stein was the first among Europeans to understand the ethos of Kashmir's culture. He explored the inner essence and beauty of Sanskrit literature especially the *Rajatarangini* of Kalhana. Stein translated Kalhana's chronicle and made his debut as a historical topographer. Stein was not the first westerner to reach Dunhuang, China but he was the first to reach the sealed library (library 17 of Dunhuang Caves, Gansu, NW of China).

From 1887 Aurel Stein lived in India working in the ICS on different posts in the education system and in the Archaeological Survey. His work connected him mainly to the Punjab, the Northwest Frontier Province and Baluchistan, but it was among the mountains of Kashmir where he really felt at home. Many of the artefacts collected by him during his forays in the desert are now among the treasures of the National Museum, New Delhi. He regularly visited Hungary and delivered lectures at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences of which he was a member since 1895. Throughout his life he supported the library of the Academy with donations, and in his testament he willed his printed books, a part of his manuscripts and his photo collection of more than 7000 items to the library of the Academy. This exhibition from the bequest of Sir Aurel Stein kept in the Oriental Collection of the LHAS, Budapest introduces the life and work of one of the greatest personalities of 20th century Asian archaeology, who turned the cultural legacy of the Silk Road to a common heritage of mankind.

## EXHIBITION

on

### **Fascinated by the Orient : Life and Works of Sir Aurel Stein**

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*Jointly organised  
by*

*Akshaya Kumar Maitreya Heritage Museum, University of North Bengal  
&  
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Janpath, New Delhi  
cordially invites you to the Exhibition*

*Inauguration 2nd March, 2016*

*by*

*Prof. Somnath Ghosh  
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NBU*

*at 12.30 p.m. – Faculty Club, University of North Bengal*

**(Exhibition will be open till 15th March 2016 )**

**Veena Joshi**  
Member Secretary  
*Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts  
Janpath, New Delhi*

**Dyutish Chakrabarti**  
Director  
*A K M H Museum  
University of North Bengal*